THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, January 28, 1805.

Kotzebue's Account of a poor blind Woman whom he met with at Mauren, a Village of Germany.

ENTERING the parlour of the poſt-houſe, I ſaw an old woman of fourſcore ſitting before the ſtove, chewing with difficulty a piece of bread, and drinking a glaſs of wine. By her ſide lay a crutch. In her youth ſhe muſt have been handſome; her countenance was ſtill pleaſing, and the ſilent grief with which it was clouded, rendered her intereſting to me. I aſked the poſtmaſter's wife, whether it was her mother? "No, indeed," ſhe replied, "ſhe is a very poor blind woman, who is obliged to live on charity, and who calls upon us occaſionally, when we do for her what we can."—"But ſhe does not beg?" No, that ſhe never does; but all who know her, give her ſomething." I accoſted the old woman: "Have you been long blind?" I began. "A ſhort time ago," ſaid ſhe, "I could ſtill perceive a glimpſe of light, but now this is vaniſhed; yet I cannot die." Notwithſtanding the concern which I ſeemed to expreſs for her, ſhe would not beg. This moved me: one word brought on another; ſhe related her melancholy ſtory. She had been married to a clergyman in Hanover, had children, and lived happily. Then came on the ſeven years' war, with poverty and diſtreſs in its train. She loſt her all, pined in want, and yet kept up her ſpirits. She beheld her children expire, and ſupported them in the hour of diſſolution. At laſt her huſband died alſo: a long illneſs conſumed what little property ſhe had left: ſhe was obliged to quit her place of reſidence deſtitute and forlorn.

She was adviſed to go to her brother-in-law, a counſellor of appeal at Darmſtadt. She did not know him perſonally, and report proclaimed him a ſtrange character. Urged, however,

by neceſſity, ſhe ventured. Being ſcantily aſſiſted by poor relations (" for," ſaid ſhe, " none of them had any thing to give"), ſhe raiſed barely ſufficient for her travelling expences, and came with the poſt waggon to Darmſtadt. Trembling ſhe approached her brother-in-law's door. A ſervant received her with conſiderable embarraſſment, yet ſhewed her into a good room, and brought her refreſhment. She remained alone ſeveral hours; but no brother-in-law made his appearance. Towards night the girl brought her a good ſupper; but unable to eat from grief and agitation, ſhe continually kept aſking where her brother-in-law was. " To-morrow, to-morrow," ſaid the maid, who perceived her uneaſineſs, and felt for her; " firſt take a good night's repoſe, you need refreſhment." She could not ſleep. In the morning the ſervants entered her chamber in tears, announced to her the burial of her relation a fortnight before, and his having bequeathed the whole of his conſiderable fortune to charitable and beneficent eſtabliſhments. Here ſhe began to weep bitterly: " and yet I cannot die!" exclaimed ſhe.

I forget how ſhe came to this part of the country, in which ſhe has been ſtarving theſe fifty years, and cannot die. For a long time ſhe received ſupport from Heidelberg; but for the laſt eighteen months that pittance has been ſtopped. As ſhe ſits ſtill without begging, her pitiful form often eſcapes notice; and ſhe gets little. She is ſomewhat prolix in converſation, but ſhe relates her narrative in correct language, and with conſiſtency; and the woman of education may be immediately diſtinguiſhed. She accepts preſents with bluſhing modeſty, and returns cordial thanks without being abject. Her wiſh to die, and her invocations of death are extremely moving. O how cheerfully ſhall I forgive the poſt-maſter for having left his horſes in the field, and made me wait longer than he ought, if this brief and unornamented tale furniſh an opportunity to men of feeling, whether travellers or not, of affording relief to the poor blind woman! She will not long prove a burden to her benefactors; her friend will ſhortly grant her fervent wiſh, and ſoftly remove her to her huſband and her children.

Extracts from Mr. Dunning's Pamphlet on Vaccination.

(Continued from Page 57.)

THE following communication from Mr. Fewſter affords a ſtill clearer elucidation of the fact already ſtated. Mr. Fewſter ſays, " on the 3d of April, 1799, I inoculated Maſter H——, aged fourteen months, for the ſmall-pox. At the uſual time

time he ſickened, had a plentiful eruption on his face, and got well. His nurſe maid, aged twenty four, had many years before gone through the ſmall-pox, in the natural way, which was evident from her being much pitted with it. She had uſed the child to ſleep on her left arm, with her cheek in contact with his face, and during his inoculation he had moſtly ſlept in that manner. About a week after the child got well, ſhe (the nurſe) deſired me to look at her face, which ſhe ſaid was very painful. There was a plentiful eruption on the left cheek, but not on any other part of the body, which went on to maturation.

" On enquiry I found that three days before the appearance of the eruption, ſhe was taken with ſlight chilly fits, pain in her head and limbs, and ſome fever. On the appearance of the eruption theſe pains went off, and now (the ſecond day of the eruption) ſhe complains of a little ſore throat. Whether the above ſymptoms are the effects of the ſmall-pox, or a recent cold, I do not know. On the fifth day of the eruption I charged a lancet from two of the puſtules, and on the next day I inoculated two children, one two years, the other four months old, with the matter. At the ſame time I inoculated the mother and eldeſt ſiſter with variolous matter taken from Maſter H——. On the fifth day of their inoculation all their arms were inflamed alike; and on the eighth day, the eldeſt of thoſe inoculated from the nurſe ſickened, and the youngeſt on the eleventh. They had both a plentiful eruption, from which I inoculated ſeveral others, who had the diſeaſe very favourably. The mother and the other child ſickened about the ſame time, and likewiſe had a plentiful eruption.

" Soon after a man in the village ſickened with the ſmall-pox, and had a confluent kind. To be convinced that the children had had the diſeaſe effectually, I took them to his houſe, and inoculated them in both arms, with matter taken from him, but without effect."

We muſt tranſcribe alſo the following letter from Dr. Jenner's " Continuation of Facts and Obſervations."

" Dear Sir,

" Society at large muſt I think feel much indebted to you for your inquiries and obſervations on the variolæ vaccinæ, &c. &c. As I conceive what I am now about to communicate to be of ſome importance, I imagine it cannot be unintereſting to you, eſpecially as it will ſerve to corroborate your aſſertion of the ſuſceptibility of the human ſyſtem of the variolous contagion, although it has previouſly been made ſenſible of its action. In November, 1793, I was deſired to inoculate a perſon with the ſmall-pox. I took the matter from a child under the diſeaſe in the natural way, who had a large burthen of diſtinct puſtules. The mother of the child being deſirous of ſeeing my method of

communicating the diſeaſe by inoculation, after having opened a puſtule, I introduced the point of my lancet in the uſual way on the back part of my own hand, and thought no more of it until I felt a ſenſation in the part, which reminded me of the tranſaction.—This happened upon the third day; on the fourth there were all the appearances common to inoculation, at which I was not at all ſurpriſed, nor did I feel myſelf uneaſy upon perceiving the inflammation continue to increaſe to the ſixth and ſeventh day, accompanied with a very ſmall quantity of fluid; repeated experiments having taught me it might happen ſo with perſons who had undergone the diſeaſe, and yet would eſcape any conſtitutional affection: but I was not ſo fortunate; for on the eighth day I was ſeized with all the ſymptoms of the eruptive fever, but in a much more violent degree than when I was before inoculated, which was about eighteen years previous to this, when I had a conſiderable number of puſtules. I muſt confeſs I was now greatly alarmed, although I had been much engaged in the ſmall-pox, having at different times inoculated not leſs than two thouſand perſons. I was convinced my preſent indiſpoſition proceeded from the inſertion of the variolous matter, and therefore anxiouſly looked for an eruption. On the tenth day I felt a very unpleaſant ſenſation of ſtiffneſs, and heat on each ſide of my face, near my ear, and the fever began to decline. The affection in my face ſoon terminated in three or four puſtules attended with inflammation, but which did not maturate, and I was preſently well.

" I remain,

" Dear Sir, &c.

" THOMAS MILES."

It is impoſſible for us at this time not to believe that the vaccine principle is important in the conſtitution and œconomies of nature. Mr. Goldſon himſelf allows that it is too replete with beneficial conſequences to mankind to be relinquiſhed, and yet he has aſſigned to it vague and indeterminate agencies, that ſcarcely leave to it more than that it is a principle in nature afloat, as it were, at random and forgotten. But we know that nothing is forgotten in nature; all her laws are regular and eternal,—beauty and fitneſs mark them all.

Mr. Goldſon ſays, page 22, " I will appeal to the candour of the profeſſion whether the caſes with eruptions, pimples, or whatever other denomination they may be claſſed, ariſing from inoculation in perſons who have paſſed the ſmall-pox, were ever known to bear any kind of proportion to what have occurred in variolous inoculation after cow-pox?"

I reply with little heſitation—much in the ſame proportion I believe. But let me appeal to Mr. Goldſon's candour alſo, and aſk if the numbers inoculated with the ſmall-pox after the inoculated

culated or caſual ſmall-pox have borne any proportion to thoſe that have been inoculated with ſmall-pox after vaccination? Let me alſo aſk, who at preſent, or for many years paſt, has inoculated after the caſual, or even the inoculated ſmall-pox, unleſs the latter had been equivocal? who believes in recurrences of the ſmall-pox, at leaſt of aſſimilating ſmall-pox, in the ſame perſon? to what purpoſes then have ſuch inoculations been adopted? *cui bono?* how many ſuch perſons has Mr. Goldſon inoculated?

Even with the little knowledge we poſſeſs, we might without preſumption have concluded, *a priori*, that whenever the abſorbents of the ſkin can be ſtimulated to take up a ſecond time the matter of ſmall-pox, or any acrid adventitious principle, or perhaps even the matter of common abſceſs, that the extraneous introductions would ſoon be felt by the conſtitution, and after a little diſturbance, ridden of it through ſome one or other of the great emunctories of the ſyſtem, the ſkin, the urinary paſſages, or inteſtines.

How frequently do we ſee in practice anomalous determinations on the ſkin, (and theſe muſt happen from the cauſes we have mentioned, or from the conveyance of ſome acrid principle from the ſtomach and firſt paſſages into the ſyſtem,) which would puzzle even a Willan to define and arrange.

Many of thoſe have I formerly ſeen, long before the cow-pock was recommended to our attention, which have ſo much reſembled the ſmall-pox it was often with great difficulty that I was able, then, to diſtinguiſh them, and I cannot doubt that I have in ſome inſtances miſtaken them.

So notorious is it that the chicken-pox, and the benign ſmall-pox, have been ſo often miſtaken for each other by men of judgement and eminence in the profeſſion, 'tis almoſt needleſs to advert to it;—theſe diſeaſes have many characters in common, and poſſibly ſtand in a nearer relation to each other than has been generally believed.——It is almoſt difficult to ſay, ſometimes, where the benign variola begins, or where the varicella ends.—If I had time and room here, I could detail an hundred inſtances almoſt of theſe miſtakes. Mr. Creaſer, that eminent vaccinift at Bath, has lately obſerved in a letter to me,—"That the friends of vaccination have yet a perſevering and inceſſant duty to fulfil,"—and goes on to tell me, "that he has very lately detected a gentleman in Bath, repreſenting a common caſe of chicken-pox as ſmall-pox after vaccination; that he has made it public, and deſires me to mention the circumſtance as an example; that the caſe was made known to him as the principal vaccinator in that diſtrict; but that the gentleman did not expect to have his aſſertions inveſtigated."——Were we to pay a little more reſpect to nature, and rely ſomewhat leſs on our own fallible judgments and powers of diſcrimination, thoſe caſes of chicken-

chicken-pox would not be often obtruded on the public with ſo much circumſtance.——Formerly after the inoculated ſmall-pox they were paſſed by as things of courſe—the time will come when this will happen in the ſame way after vaccination.

Nothing in Mr. Goldſon's pamphlet has more ſurprized and puzzled me than his remark, that he has never ſeen even an approach to the puſtule or ſpurious cow pock, or ſcarcely heard of ſuch an occurrence in that neighbourhood. Truly we have ſeen them many times at Plymouth.——(What natural cauſes can have produced theſe and ſome other remarkable diverſities in theſe two maritime towns, ſituated ſo near each other, and placed to common apprehenſion in circumſtances nearly ſimilar?)—But I do not know in my range of medical friends that we have as yet been off our guard;—we have ſeen two, I believe three inſtances, where the vaccine vera was diſtinctly marked on one arm, and the notha as remarkably on the other, in the ſame ſubject and from the ſame lymph. Similar occurrences have been publiſhed in the Medical Journal, a periodical work of vaſt convenience; to the editors of which the medical world are much indebted for their attentions to every circumſtance connected with the cow-pox.—The firſt paper in the firſt number of it, written by Dr. Bradley, was that which firſt rivetted my attention to the ſubject;—in the 17th No. of this work, Earl Derby, in a letter to Dr. Denman, relates a caſe which it will be very important to recollect in practice, (and more immediately important to the young vaccinift,) in which a conſiderable local affection was three times produced in quick ſucceſſion, on the arms of a child, differing widely from thoſe on the arms of ſome other children who were vaccinated at the ſame time. The laſt impreſſion was only characteriſtic of cow-pock.—Had theſe fallen on ſome ground, tares would have ſprung up, and choked the good corn.

(To be continued.)

Account of the principal Dreſſes exhibited at St. James's, January 18, 1805, *the Day on which the Queen's Birthday is kept.*

THERE was ſcarcely ever a more numerous and brilliant aſſemblage of nobility and gentry than appeared at St. James's on this day. The uſual ceremonies were obſerved, and the ſincereſt pleaſure was felt at ſeeing both their majeſties in excellent health and ſpirits.

LADIES DRESSES.

Her Majeſty.—An elegant white ſatin petticoat, with a net work embroidered in purple, and a rich white velvet border at

the bottom, ornamented with white chenille, ſilk flowers, and ſmall fancy taſſels; the drapery on the right ſide, purple velvet, embroidered in white, relieved with large points, which drew up the drapery; and on the left ſide was embroidered in bunches of large leaves; rich purple and white taſſels, intermixed with acorns and embroidered bows, finiſhed this dreſs, which had a moſt noble appearance. The body and train was of purple and white fancy velvet, with an elegant velvet embroidered border to correſpond with the petticoat.

The Princeſs of Wales—wore a moſt magnificent dreſs of ruby velvet, richly embroidered with ſilver and poliſhed ſteel, to form large branches and wreaths of flowers; the train was trimmed all round with a moſt elegant gold fringe; the body taſtefully ornamented with diamonds, point lace, and gold laurel; the petticoat was of white ſatin, embroidered with ſilver and poliſhed ſteel, to correſpond with the dreſs. The head-dreſs conſiſted of diamonds and oſtrich feathers.

Princeſs Auguſta.—A magnificent dreſs of green ſatin, ſuperbly embroidered in ſtripes of gold foil, relieved by feſtoons richly ſpangled, draperies of green velvet richly embroidered, with a ſuperbly-elegant border of gold Pariſian net, in feſtoons of rich foil ſtrawberry-leaves, huſſar ſaſh of green velvet embroidered in ſtripes; having a ſtrikingly new and elegant appearance; at the bottom of the petticoat was diſplayed a beautiful ſhell-work in gold, the whole looped up with rich cords and taſſels; train, green and gold velvet tiſſue.

Princeſs Elizabeth.—The ſame as Princeſs Auguſta, in roval purple; train, purple and gold velvet tiſſue in checks. Her royal highneſs wore a profuſion of diamonds in her head dreſs.

Princeſs Mary—wore a petticoat of royal purple ſatin, with three magnificent draperies of purple velvet, richly ſpangled in rings with large gold foil vine leaves, elegantly entwined and interſperſed throughout the whole; each drapery trimmed with moſt beautiful Bruſſels point; the left ſide of the petticoat covered with two long ſaſhes in purple velvet, richly embroidered in the eaſtern ſtyle, and trimmed all round with the ſame beautiful point that finiſhed the drapery; the bottom in waves of gold and vine-leaves finiſhed this ſuperb dreſs, which, for the ſimplicity and elegance diſplayed in the *tout enſemble*, ſurpaſſed every thing of the kind we have ever ſeen; train, purple and gold tiſſue in checks, the ſame as Princeſs Elizabeth.

Princeſs Sophia.—A petticoat of orange-coloured ſatin richly embroidered in ſilver, with draperies of black lace and rich embroidered borders of ſilver foil intermixed with the lace; the whole had a moſt coſtly and ſuperb effect, and was finiſhed with

with rich ſilver cords and taſſels, the train, orange-coloured velvet and ſilver tiſſue.

Princeſs Amelia.—An apricot coloured petticoat, with embroidered wreath of ſilver hops at the bottom; black velvet drapery, with an embroidered border, forming an elegant wreath of ſilver hops; the ground work of the drapery an Egyptian ſcrawl, which was exceedingly beautiful; the upper draperies were of fine black lace, elegantly ornamented with ſilver bows and taſſels; the train of velvet tiſſue, black, buff, and ſilver.

Ducheſs of York.—A white crape petticoat richly embroidered in ſilver, with an Etruſcan border of real ſilver oriental *lame* on geranium coloured crape; the draperies of oriental real ſilver *lame*, with wreaths of geranium beautifully painted on velvet; a double drapery of crape, ſo cloſely ſpangled with ſmall ſilver ſpangles as almoſt to conceal the crape; the train was geranium coloured ſatin, trimmed with ſilver. Her highneſs's head-dreſs conſiſted of a profuſion of diamonds with oſtrich feathers; and the whole had a very elegant effect.

Princeſs Charlotte of Wales.—In a muſlin frock, with a gold fringe at the bottom, and gold bracelets on the upper part of the arm above the elbow. Her highneſs wore no ſaſh or head-dreſs; the dreſs was perfectly ſimple.

Princeſs Sophia of Glouceſter.—A very beautiful dreſs of white and gold, the petticoat white ſatin ſuperbly embroidered with gold in ſtripes, the bottom ornamented with rich border and gold fringe; the drapery conſiſted of a very elegant gold embroidered net, which had a very ſtriking and brilliant effect; train, gold-tiſſue trimmed with gold to correſpond; white ſatin ſhoes embroidered with gold ſhapes, richly trimmed with gold roſettas. The whole of this dreſs was completed with that taſte and elegance which always diſtinguiſhes her royal highneſs's dreſs.

Princeſs Caſtelcicala.—An elegant dreſs of white crape, richly embroidered in gold, with a drapery of purple velvet, and gold ſpangles; the train of purple velvet, embroidered and trimmed with gold.

Ducheſs of Roxburgh.—A petticoat of white crape, embroidered with a rich moſaic of gold and ſilver ſpangles, the border royal purple velvet, embroidered in real gold oriental *lame*, with ſprays of wheat in coloured brilliant ſtones; the body and train to correſpond. The head-dreſs, royal purple feathers, with a tiara of diamonds.

The Counteſs of Camden.—A petticoat of white crape moſt beautifully embroidered with gold, and rich drapery and taſſels to correſpond; the train of black velvet. The counteſs preſented to her majeſty her lovely daughter, Lady Frances Pratt, whoſe dreſs was ſimply elegant, and made of rich white ſatin, very taſtefully embroidered in ſilver ſhell-work; the train formed

part of the drapery, with ſilver taſſels, which altogether had a moſt graceful appearance; head-dreſs of white oſtrich feathers.

Counteſs of Jerſey.—The petticoat of white velvet ſatin, ornamented at the bottom with an elegant froſted gold fringe and taſſels; mantle draperies, and the ſupporter of the ſame ſatin, enriched with a full Etruſcan border, curiouſly embroidered in pearls of matted gold, the corners with full medallions of the ſame, the points finiſhed with taſſels of matted gold pearls; the embroidery, which was from the antique, had a very elegant and novel effect; the deſign and pearls being perfectly unique, ſeemed to meet with univerſal admiration; the train was of Etruſcan brown velvet, edged and ornamented with the the ſame coſtly pearl. Her ladyſhip's head-dreſs conſiſted of fine oſtrich feathers, and a large plume of fine diamonds.

The Counteſs of Euſton—was particularly ſucceſsful in the elegant effect of her dreſs; a petticoat of brown net over white ſatin, highly finiſhed round the bottom with gold fringe, and taſſels of the ſame; body and train of brown velvet, richly ornamented with gold, and lace ſleeves. Head-dreſs, an elegant bandeau, with a beautiful oſtrich plume. Evening dreſs. White ſatin, moſt elegantly ornamented with gold. Head-dreſs the ſame as the morning.

Counteſs Erneſtine.—A petticoat of white crape, worked with croſs ſtripes in Gothic ſtyle, ground ſpotted in diamond ſhape; bottom trimmed with a Gothic border terminating with a ſpangle fringe, white ſatin ribband, and ſteel intermixed drapery, richly worked in wave; Etruſcan border, intermixed with ſteel; white crape train, trimmed with ſilver, body and ſleeves embroidered; head-dreſs, ſilver diadem and white feathers; ſhe looked very amiable and intereſting.

Counteſs de Zichy—was remarked by the whole court, and admired by every body for her graceful appearance, ſhe was remarkably intereſting; was elegantly dreſſed in a petticoat of white crape, worked all over in an Etruſcan ground, ſilver ſpangled, rich Etruſcan border to the bottom, cloſed with a Greek border of poliſhed ſteel dividing the drapery and border, white ſatin train, with ſilver Roſcius trimming, ſleeves of white crape, richly ſpangled; head-dreſs, a diamond turban and feathers; ſhe likewiſe wore a beautiful diamond ſtomacher.

GENTLEMEN's DRESSES.

In theſe there was little novelty. The king was dreſſed in a full dreſs ſuit of regimentals. The prince of Wales appeared in a field-marſhal's full dreſs uniform; and the dukes of Glouceſter, Kent, Cumberland, and Prince William of Glouceſter,

in regimentals. The duke of Suſſex was dreſſed in an olive-coloured coat, richly embroidered with gold, quite in a new ſtyle, and which had the moſt beautiful effect. Many of the nobility and gentlemen were dreſſed in regimentals.

ILLUMINATIONS.

Drury-Lane Theatre—was as uſual very elegant. In the centre appeared an oval tranſparency of the imperial arms, ſupported by wreaths, compoſed of the thiſtle and ſhamrock; C. R. on each ſide, in large coloured lamps, had an effect ſtrikingly beautiful. Over the whole appeared the imperial crown.

Covent-Garden.—The whole length of the colonade over the box doors, communicating with the public and private doors, was ſplendidly illuminated. In the centre appeared a ſuperb ſtar, ſurmounted by the Britiſh crown.—Pyramidical columns, with vaſes of variegated lamps at each extremity, had a very beautiful effect. The back ground and the whole was compoſed of gold foil.

Opera-Houſe.—As uſual claſſed among the moſt taſteful and ſuperb; ſpiral columns, with a head reſembling a ſpear, was ſingularly beautiful. C. R. a brilliant ſtar, feſtoons, and other ornaments were placed in different parts of the front of that elegant building.

Dr Gardner's Eſtimate of the progreſſive Population of this Country from the Time of Julius Cæſar.

I ſhould ſubject myſelf to juſt and ſevere criticiſm, were I to pretend to great accuracy in the ſeveral calculations I have made of the population of this country, from the firſt invaſion of Julius Cæſar to this time. Though the *data*, however, are but few on which we can proceed with certainty in eſtimates of this kind, yet, from the pains I have taken in ſearching records and hiſtorians, it is probable that there cannot be in theſe calculations any conſiderable error. I ſhall therefore venture to ſet down, in round numbers, what I apprehend to have been the population of the ſeveral periods mentioned in this diſſertation.

At the firſt invaſion of Julias Cæſar, A. C. 55, there were probably in this iſland, of all ages, about eight hundred and fifty thouſand perſons; in the year of our Lord 350, when the Roman provinces in Britain were in their moſt flouriſhing ſtate, nearly three millions. But, from the gradual decline of the Roman power, and proſperity in Britain, from the above period, to their final departure in 446, having carried with them moſt of

the

the Britiſh youth capable of bearing arms, the number of inhabitants decreaſed conſiderably.

This depopulation was ſo rapidly carried on by the invaſion of the Scots and Picts, ſucceeded by famine and peſtilence, and afterwards by the Saxons, in their commotions and wars with the Danes, through the whole of the Heptarchy to the time of Alfred, that their number, at the death of this great man in 900, did not perhaps amount quite to two millions. From this period to the conqueſt, population increaſed ſo ſlowly, that, from Doomeſday-book, and other documents, it is not thought that in England it was much above two millions. From the poll-tax, granted in 1377, and conſequent ſubſidy-roll, the population of England was eſtimated at two millions, three hundred and fifty-three thouſand, two hundred and three. But, from the vaſt number of men carried off by the deſtructive wars with France in the beginning of the fifteenth century, both countries were ſo depopulated, and their finances ſo exhauſted, that neither kingdom could ſometimes bring into the field above ten or twelve thouſand men.

This depopulation was ſo kept up, or rather increaſed, by the bloody conteſts between the houſes of York and Lancaſter, that it is by hiſtorians imagined that, at the acceſſion of Henry VII, the number of people in England did not greatly exceed that at the conqueſt. I omit, here, to ſtate the population of England at the end of Elizabeth's reign, and likewiſe that of the time of Charles II: from this laſt period, however, the number of inhabitants in Britain gradually increaſed; but did not, probably, till after the year 1740, greatly exceed ſeven millions.

The progreſſive riſe of the population of this country, from the beginning of the ſixteenth century to the preſent time, with the extenſion of our manufactures, commerce, and agriculture, and theſe keeping a conſtant regular pace with one another, demonſtratively prove the cauſes of the increaſe of numbers in any country; and that depopulation will ever attend the reverſe of theſe proſperous circumſtances. But the preſent number of inhabitants in Britain, now aſcertained to be above eleven millions, is ſtill capable of being conſiderably increaſed by an augmentation of the product of the earth, in the improvement and cultivation of the commons and waſte lands, as propoſed in ſection third.

This improvement of our lands ought to keep pace with the increaſing ſtate of our manufactures; for the population of every country depends principally on theſe two circumſtances. Mr. Anderſon, in his hiſtory of commerce, mentions a report, that the duke of Portland is in poſſeſſion of a calculation, which makes the number of manufacturers in Britain amount to five millions, two hundred and fifty thouſand ſouls: the annual value of the ſeveral articles, in which they are employed, when

completed, he eſtimates at 51,310,000l. If we could depend on theſe calculations in 1783, they are the ſtrongeſt proof that can be given of the wonderful effect that manufactures have in increaſing not only the population, but the wealth and power of every ſtate.

DESCRIPTION *of* PRINCE *of* WALES's ISLAND.

THE iſland of Penang, now called Prince of Wales's Iſland, is ſituated between 5 45 and 5 29 degrees north latitude, in the Straits of Malacca, lying a mile and a half from the coaſt of Queda; its greateſt breadth at the north end is about twelve miles, but it decreaſes towards the ſouth, where it is only ten miles over; its length, from north to ſouth, is 16 ſtatute miles.

The iſland is at preſent in general thickly covered with wood of various qualities; but, where any part has been cleared, the ſoil has been found ſufficiently good for the produce of all kinds of grain and vegetables common in Hindoſtan. Fruits of every kind thrive well, and the ſpice plants grow wild.

The iſland is in every part plentifully ſupplied with freſh water of the fineſt quality; ſmall rivulets deſcending from the hills in every direction refreſhing the country, and affording an eaſy paſſage for the timber that is cut down in the interior of the iſland. Deer and wild hogs are in great abundance on the iſland, as well as all kind of wild and water fowl. Fiſh is in great plenty, and reckoned ſuperior to any found on the other coaſts in India.

Oyſters here are in great perfection, and turtle of the firſt quality are procured at a very trifling expence. No ferocious animals of any kind have ever been diſcovered on the iſland, though the oppoſite coaſt of Queda abounds with the royal tiger, rhinoceros, &c.

Poultry of every deſcription is procured here in great abundance, two dollars being the uſual price for a hundred fine fowls. Beef, mutton, &c. have lately been introduced from Bengal, and are found to thrive remarkably well.

With reſpect to the climate, it will be unneceſſary to ſay more than to quote the following account of it from the excellent report of Colonel Kidd:

"It is hardly poſſible to conceive a finer climate; it is never liable to extremes of heat, has ſeldom very violent, and never continued rains, but is frequently refreſhed with cool and agreeable ſhowers. And while all the neighbouring countries are under the influence of violent gales and deluges of rain, the iſland of Penang is bleſſed with a perfectly ſerene ſky, having only

only now and then a day's moderate rain. In conſequence of theſe great advantages of climate, Penang is wonderfully healthy, ſuiting both the conſtitutions of Europeans and natives of Hindoſtan."

Amongſt the woods there is a great variety of creepers, one of which yields the elaſtic gum, which has been ſaid, by a French author, to be the produce of a tree in South America. This gum, ſo peculiar in its nature, is in the bark of this creeper, or tree, which is remarkably thick, and when cut or wounded, emits a thick white juice, reſembling cream, which takes the conſiſtency and colour of the elaſtic gum, after having been expoſed to the air for a few minutes.

The harbour of Prince of Wales's iſland is very capacious, and has good anchorage for the largeſt ſhips, of from ſeven to fifteen fathoms water.—There is a bar ſo fortunately thrown up by the ſea, that it effectually prevents violent ſeas from breaking in, and forms the harbour in a kind of baſon, rendering a ſecure harbour againſt every wind that blows, and where the largeſt fleet may ride, without ever being preſſed for room.

With reſpect to that part of the iſland which is conſidered capable of cultivation, it may be ſaid that not leſs than one-third of its ſurface can be reduced to tillage, as that part only is upon a level, or eaſy inclination. The interior of the country is hilly, and in many parts the woods are impervious. At the north end, at the diſtance of four miles from Fort George (the capital of the iſland), a well-built town, is a hill or mount, on which moſt of the company's ſervants have country villas. The hill is of an eaſy aſcent, being about three miles to the top, where the flag ſtaff is erected. The climate on the hill differs ten degrees, at leaſt, from that in the town; the thermometer being generally in the town from 80 to 90 degrees, while, on the hill, the average is from 70 to 80 degrees.

Such are the climate and productions of Prince of Wales's iſland, on which the Eaſt India company are now forming a ſettlement on the plan of fort St. George and Bombay: its advantages in theſe particulars render it far ſuperior to the other parts of India, while its central ſituation, in a commercial and political point of view, gives it the preference over Madras and Bombay, as an advantageous ſettlement for the India company.

Sketch of the Life of that eminent Scholar, the Rev. Robert Potter.

THIS learned man was found dead in his bed towards the cloſe of the year 1804, at Loweſtoffe, of which place he

was

was vicar. He was 83 years of age. He took the degree of bachelor of arts in 1741, at Emanuel College, Cambridge, and that of master of arts in 1784. His first preferment was the vicarage of Scarning, in Norfolk. As a classic scholar he was a character of the highest distinction. The literary world is highly indebted to him for excellent poetical versions of the Greek tragedians.

In 1774, he published a volume of poems most of which had before appeared separately. Many of them are very pretty compositions, particularly a beautiful farewell hymn to the country, in imitation of Spencer. Three years afterwards, his translation of Æschylus made its appearance in a quarto volume, and has since been reprinted with the addition of notes, in two volumes, octavo.

Of the excellence of this translation, it is scarcely possible to say too much; many of the parts are so exquisitely beautiful as to leave us in doubt, whether any poet could have accomplished the task with greater success, In 1781, he published his translation of Euripides in quarto; and in 1788, that of Sophocles, in the same size. These last productions are, upon the whole, inferior to his first, yet they are both excellent performances, and superior to those of Dr. Franklin and Mr. Woodhull.

Besides these very laborious works, Mr. Potter published in quarto, in 1783, "An Enquiry into some Passages of Dr. Johnson's Lives of the Poets;" in 1785, in quarto, "A Translation of the Oracle concerning Babylon, and the Song of Exultation from Isaiah," chap. xiii and xiv; and in 1802, "A Sermon on the Thanksgiving for the Peace."

By his death the republic of letters has lost one of its best and most unassuming ornaments. His manners were simple, and his life exemplary. He was a scholar of the old school, and nothing tempted him to relinquish divine and polite literature. His works are not numerous, but they are valuable, and will find their way to posterity. The only temporary effusion of his pen, was a pamphlet in defence of his brother poet, Mason, against the criticisms of Johnson. A great portion of his life was dedicated to the translating of the three Greek tragic poets, to whom he is the first who has done ample justice in our language. He had the peculiar felicity of transfusing their loftiness, and preserving their simplicity, without running into bombast, or descending into servility. His translations are justly admired by those who are well versed in the originals, of the charms of which they convey the most gratifying idea to the English reader.

It was not till he had completed his last translation, that of Sophocles, that Mr. Potter obtained any preferment in the church higher than that of vicar of Lowestoffe. He had been a school fellow of Lord Thurlow, and had constantly sent his

publications to that great man without ever ſoliciting a favour from him. On receiving a copy of the Sophocles, however, his lordſhip wrote a ſhort note to Mr. Potter, acknowledging the receipt of his books from time to time, and the pleaſure they had afforded him, and requeſting Mr. Potter's acceptance of a prebendal ſtall in the cathedral of Norwich, which, with his vicarage, rendered him comfortable during the remainder of a life honourably devoted to thoſe purſuits which beſt become a profound ſcholar and a true Chriſtian.

EXTRAORDINARY FRENCH MISER.

MR. VANDILLE was the moſt remarkable man in Paris, both on account of his immenſe riches, and his extreme avarice. He lodged as high up as the roof would admit him, to avoid noiſe or viſits; maintained one poor old woman to attend him in his garret; allowed her only ſeven ſous per week, or a penny per diem. His uſual diet was bread and milk; and for indulgence, ſome poor ſour wine on Sunday; on which day he conſtantly gave one farthing to the poor, being one ſhilling and a penny per annum; which he caſt up, and, after his death, his extenſive charity amounted to 43 ſhillings and fourpence.

This prudent economiſt had been a magiſtrate or officer at Boulogne, from which obſcurity he was promoted to Paris, for the reputation of his wealth, which he lent upon undeniable ſecurity to the public funds, not caring to truſt individuals with his life and ſoul. While a magiſtrate at Boulogne, he maintained himſelf by taking upon him to be milk-taſter-general at the market; and from one to another filled his belly, and waſhed down his bread, at no expence of his own; not, doubtleſs, from any other principle than that of ſerving the public, and regulating the goodneſs of the milk. When he was called to Paris, knowing that ſtage vehicles were expenſive, he determined to go thither on foot; and, to avoid being robbed, he took care to export with himſelf neither more nor leſs than the conſiderable ſum of three-pence ſterling, to carry him one hundred and thirty miles: and, with the greateſt facility to execute his plan of operation, he went in the quality of a poor prieſt, or mendicant, and, no doubt, gathered ſome few pence on the road, from ſuch pious and well-diſpoſed perſons of the country as were ſtrangers to him.

The great value a miſer annexes to a farthing, will make us leſs ſurpriſed at the infinite attachment he muſt have to a guinea, of which it is the ſeed, growing by gentle gradations, into pence, ſhillings, pounds, thouſands, and ten thouſands; which made this worthy connoiſſeur ſay, "Take care of the farthings, and

the

the pence and ſhillings will take care of themſelves; theſe ſemina of wealth may be compared to ſeconds of time, which generate years, centuries, and even eternity itſelf."

When he became immenſely rich, being, in the year 1785, worth ſeven or eight hundred thouſand pounds, which he begot or multiplied on the body of a ſingle ſhilling, from the age of ſixteen to the age of ſeventy-two, one day he heard a woodman going by in ſummer, at which ſeaſon they ſtock themſelves in fuel for the winter: he agreed with him at the loweſt rate poſſible, but ſtole from the poor man ſeveral logs with which he loaded himſelf to his ſecret hiding-hole: and thus contracted in that hot ſeaſon a fever: he then ſent for a ſurgeon, to bleed him, who aſking half a livre for the operation, was diſmiſſed: he then ſent for a poor barber, who undertook to open a vein for three-pence a time; "But," ſays this worthy economiſt, "how often will it be requiſite to bleed?"—"Three times," ſaid he. —"And what quantity of blood do you intend to take?"—"About eight ounces each time," anſwered the barber. "That will be nine-pence; too much, too much," ſays the old miſer. "I am determined to go a cheaper way to work; take the whole quantity you deſign to take at three times, at one time, and that will ſave me ſix-pence;" which being inſiſted on, he loſt twenty-four ounces of blood, and died in a few days, leaving all his vaſt treaſures to the king, whom he made his ſole heir. Thus he contracted his diſorder by pilfering, and his death by an unprecedented piece of parſimony.

ACCOUNT *of* PALMYRA ISLAND.

THIS iſland is ſituated in latitude 5° 49′ N. and in longitude 162° 23′ W. from London; it is about three leagues in extent; there are two lagoons on it: in the weſtermoſt of which is twenty fathom water, with a fine ſandy bottom. It is very dangerous to approach the weſtern part of the iſland on account of the coral rocks which are juſt below the ſurface of the water, and extend to the diſtance of three or four leagues from the ſhore.

The eaſtern part terminates in a ſteep reef of coral, over which the ſea breaks with conſiderable force.

On the north-weſt ſide there is good anchoring ground, about three quarters of a mile from the breakers, in eighteen fathom water on a coral bottom.

There are no inhabitants on the iſland; nor was any freſh water found; but cocoa-nuts, of very large ſize, are in great abundance: and fiſh of various kinds, and in large ſhoals, ſurrounded by land.

A great quantity of drift wood lay on the beach, which enabled thoſe who landed to aſcertain that the riſe of the tide was about eighteen inches.

On MENTAL TASTE.

IT is a pleaſing thought, that mental taſte will extend itſelf to a better world, where our knowledge will rapidly increaſe, and we ſhall know as we are known; where all cauſe of miſery will ceaſe, and mental taſte will be the ſource of happineſs for ever and ever.

If we would wiſh to cultivate our minds, it will be abſolutely neceſſary to be particular in the choice of our authors as well as of our company, for if we ſpend our time in frivolous purſuits we ſhall feel the awful conſequence, and inſtead of improving ourſelves, become leſs wiſe and leſs religious.

SINGULAR FRAUD.

A Sharper lately obſerved an advertiſement, ſtating that a gentleman had found a bank-note of one hundred pounds, and would gladly reſtore it to the owner, on deſcribing the number, date, &c. This ſtruck him as a favourable opportunity of gaining that ſum with little difficulty, at all events with no riſk or expence, even if his efforts failed. He equipped himſelf in the higheſt ſtyle of faſhion, and ordered a poſt-chaiſe to his door, with a ſervant in livery to attend him. He ſet off agreeable to the direction, which was ſome diſtance from town, and alighted at the gentleman's houſe, who proved to be an elderly clergyman, who had picked up the note at the end of his garden wall, adjoining the public road.

On being invited into the parlour, he related the purport of his viſit, and on being aſked by the clergyman if he could deſcribe the number, marks, &c. of the note, to convince him of his right to the claim, he replied he was fearful he ſhould not be able to recollect enough to ſatisfy him, having but lately received it; but, if it was his, the name of Hill was wrote on the back in red, and if that name was not on the note, he ſhould decline giving him any more trouble, not doubting but he would ſoon diſcover the loſer.

On this candid ſtatement, the parſon incautiouſly gave him the note, ſaying, "There, Sir! look if you can ſee the name alluded to. If ſo, 'tis your's; if not, I muſt reſerve it for a better claimant." After making his remarks on the note, quite unperceived, he returned it.

Apologizing for the trouble he had given, he took his leave, and, on entering the chaiſe, wrote down every particular, with which he furniſhed his accomplice, who, a few mornings after, repaired to the clergyman's, and having deſcribed every neceſſary mark, &c. to enſure his claim, readily obtained it of the clergyman, who had no idea of the ſtratagem employed.

Anſwer, by T. Gill, Exciſe Officer, near Wells, to G. Hann's Charade, inſerted November 5.

YOUR firſt and ſecond I have put together,
And found your beaſt to be the uſeful WETHER.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from Sylvanus, of Awliſcombe; and J. B. Bloomfield, of Poole.

Anſwer, by R. B—, W. W—, and G. E—, of Plymouth, to J. Callaway's Charade, inſerted November 5.

IN peaceful glen the humble ſage
Is found within his HERMITAGE.

*** We have received ſimilar anſwers from R. Holwell, W. Strong, Samuel Murch, and W. Commins, of Exeter; a north country ſailor at Exmouth; E. Moon, of Wincanton; J. Lewis, T. Adey, and R. Bloomfield, of Poole; Simplex, of Plymouth-Dock; J. H. M. of Blackwater; Primroſe, of Taunton; R. Bellowes, of Winborne; Cornwallina, of St. Teath; C. of Totnes; A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth; W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; T. Gill, officer of exciſe near Wells; J. Wilcox, of Horſington; Sylvanus, of Awliſcombe; G. Coulman, of Broadhempſton; W. Tucker, of Tilſhead ſchool; R. Burley, of Truro; J. Patch, at Everſhot ſchool; and J. Whittle, of Upway.

Anſwer, by J. Chubb, of Everſhot, to G. Hann's Charade, inſerted November 19.

TO ſolve your lay if, Sir, I'm right,
A PILLION 'twas which you did write.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from T. Adey, J. B. Bloomfield, and J. Lewis, of Poole; T. Prout, of Mevagiſſey; Receluſe, of Awliſcombe; A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth; W. Bickham, jun. of Aſhburton; G. Coulman, of Broadhempſton; J. Patch, at Everſhot ſchool; W. Strong, Samuel Murch, W. Commins, and T. Whicker, of Exeter; and a north country ſailor at Exmouth.

ANAGRAM, *by T. Shoel.*

IF you my infant's name aright tranſpoſe,
An ancient Jewiſh town it will diſcloſe,
Where once a tyrant did his malice ſhew,
And many an innocent his ruffians ſlew.

A CHARADE, *by T. Rutger, of Clowance.*

INGENIOUS bards! in myſtic lore,
Who on this page oft ſhine;
A river if you right explore,
My firſt you then will find.
In fancy's mirror paint its view,
Sweet winding thro' the glade;
My concave next, in order true,
Will ſurely be diſplay'd.
Still if its meand'ring verge you trace,
My whole may then be found;
The ſame doth name an ancient place,
For learning much renown'd.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

TRANSITION FROM SUMMER TO WINTER.

SWEET ſummer ſcenes, adieu!
In beauty's garb array'd,
Heighten'd by magic fancy's ſpell,
Ye once could ſorrow's miſts diſpel,
And brighten melancholy's view:
Now doom'd, alas! to fade.

Farewell, ye tepid airs,
That ſwept the early dew!
Convey'd on zephyr's balmy wing,
Beplum'd from the creative ſpring,
Ye once could dry up nature's tears:
She now may weep for you.

But tho' theſe all are gone,
Shall heedleſs man complain?
Tho' rich autumnus too retire,
And yield to winter's hoary ſire,
Shall we the uſeful change diſown,
And Heaven's beheſts arraign?

Darkneſs, and cold, and ſtorm,
Hyemal horrors, hail!
With each anomalous compeer,
Attendant on your dread career;
Altho' ye nature's face deform,
Still will your preſence hail:

For wiſdom ſees your pow'r
Nature's beſt ends ſubſerve:
And whilſt, unknowing the deſign,
Some at the preſent ſcenes repine,
She can, tho' angry tempeſts low'r,
A mental calm preſerve.

The philoſophic mind
Storms cannot diſcompoſe;
Nor wintry darkneſs e'er inveſt,
With a congenial gloom, the breaſt,
Where hope's bright treaſures are enſhrin'd,
And virtue's ardour glows.

Falmouth, November, 1804. A. Z.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

Imitation of Part of the 150*th Pſalm, written and ſet to Muſic, by Thomas Shoel.*

O Praiſe the Lord, exalt his name,
Thro' Heaven's empyreal plains;
Let yon wide vault's ſtupendous frame
Reſound the immortal ſtrains.

O! let his wondrous deeds inſpire,
And conſecrate your lays;
His greatneſs every boſom fire
To ſpeak his mighty praiſe.

Loud let the ſolemn organ blow,
With full majeſtic ſound,
While thro' the "long drawn aiſles" below,
The pealing anthems ſound.

Let harps, and pſalteries, and lutes,
Their mingled notes employ;
While trumpets ſhrill, and breathing flutes,
Aſſiſt the ſacred joy.

Let cymbals join their various notes,
The grave, the high, the ſtrong;
While loud th' harmonious torrent floats
The lengthening globe along.

Let all who "vital breath" poſſeſs,
Their grateful homage bring;
To him their thankful hymns addreſs,
And hallelujahs ſing.—HALLELUJAH.

THE VISITOR.

TO nature, on earth, a ſhort viſit we pay,
That viſit, at longeſt, no more than a day;
We riſe in the morning with tears in our eye,
"Says nature (and gives us a rattle), "Don't cry!"
We ſit down to breakfaſt—'tis done in a trice,
And well we remember our mother's advice;
The tears from our eyes we wipe off too ſoon,
And play the farce paſtime thro' all the forenoon.
With a ſhort grace, if any, we ſit down to dine;
At the feaſt we forget that the day will decline—
'Tis declining already, for if you can ſee,
Tho' you told the clock twelve, mark the hand, that's at three!
Over coffee and tea, how we trifle and prate,
'Till evening, and then—"Who'd have thought it ſo late?"
Says nature—"Ariſe, make your bow, and away,
"The chaiſe at the door, and the driver wont ſtay."
Reluctant we enter, the reaſon I know—
And are we quite ſure to what inn we ſhall go?
Inn! that's not the word, and we know it too well,
For homeward we go, and are going to dwell!
And are we quite ſure we ſhall dwell at our eaſe,
And ſhall we reſide juſt as long as we pleaſe?
That, that is the point—but where'er we retire,
The leaſe of our dwelling will never expire!
Mankind are the viſitors: warn'd at the thought,
At your viſit behave as ſuch viſitors ought!

REFLECTION *on* HISTORY.

PROTRACTED tragedy! as long as deep!
Whoſe unſpent horror thro' all time hath ſpun
The harrowing tale! O'er hiſtory's lengthening courſe
The vein of perſevering fury runs;
And he that reads its pages, juſtly calls them
Records of ſlaughter—chronicles of blood!